



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|---|-------------|----------------------|----------------------------|------------------|
| 10/656,346 | 09/05/2003 | Reiner Raffel | PO7786/HE-171 | 7800 |
| 1557 | 7590 | 06/17/2004 | | |
| WILLIAM F. HALLISEY 317 MENAUAHANT ROAD EAST FALMOUTH, MA 02536 | | | EXAMINER COONEY, JOHN M | |
| | | | ART UNIT 1711 | PAPER NUMBER |

DATE MAILED: 06/17/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

| | | |
|-----------------|---------------|--|
| Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
| 10/656,346 | RAFFEL ET AL. | |
| Examiner | Art Unit | |
| John m Cooney | 1711 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

**A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.**

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
6) Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
7) Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
8) Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) Notice of Draftsman's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date 3shts.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date, ____.
5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) Other: ____.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Althausen et al.(5,840,778).

Althausen et al. discloses methods for preparing polyurethane foams by mixing and metering into a mixing chamber area and reacting materials including polyol, isocyanate, carbon dioxide and water wherein the process includes generating bubble nuclei due to pressure reduction in the direction of the downstream flow by a body reading on the throttle body as claimed, and application of the material to a surface utilizing pressure conditions, mixers, and pressure-reduction bodies in order to arrive at processes and apparatuses reading on those claimed by applicants (see the entire document).

Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Sulzbach et al. (5,643,970).

Sulzbach et al. discloses methods for preparing polyurethane foams by mixing and metering into a mixing chamber area and reacting materials including polyol, isocyanate, carbon dioxide and water wherein the process includes generating bubble nuclei due to pressure reduction in the direction of the downstream flow by a body

reading on the throttle body as claimed, and application of the material to a surface utilizing pressure conditions, mixers, and pressure-reduction bodies in order to arrive at processes and apparatuses reading on those claimed by applicants (see the entire document).

Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Sulzbach et al. (6,019,919).

Sulzbach et al. discloses methods for preparing polyurethane foams by mixing and metering into a mixing chamber area and reacting materials including polyol, isocyanate, carbon dioxide and water wherein the process includes generating bubble nuclei due to pressure reduction in the direction of the downstream flow by a body reading on the throttle body as claimed, and application of the material to a surface utilizing pressure conditions, mixers, and pressure-reduction bodies in order to arrive at processes and apparatuses reading on those claimed by applicants (see the entire document).

Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Rill, Jr. et al.(3,220,801).

Rill, Jr. et al. discloses polyurethane foam forming metering devices employing mixing elements, valves, and nozzles arranged in a manner which reads on the apparatus claimed by applicants (see the entire document).

Double Patenting

The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. See *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and, *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent is shown to be commonly owned with this application. See 37 CFR 1.130(b).

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

Claims 1-10 are provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 19-36 of copending Application No. 10/311,394. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because the methods and devices of the claims overlap in features and a manner which would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art.

This is a provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection because the conflicting claims have not in fact been patented.

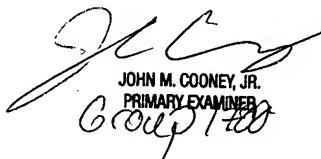
The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Suh et al. (6,005,013) and Sulzbach et al. (5,521,224) disclose methods and devices relevant to those of the instant concern.

Art Unit: 1711

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John Cooney whose telephone number is 571-272-1070. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 9 to 6.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Seidleck, can be reached on 571-272-1078. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



JOHN M. COONEY, JR.
PRIMARY EXAMINER
Group 1700